(c) why are Government not encouraging growing of more oilseeds in the country since it does not require highly irrigated land; and

(d) whether Government are only keen to import oil, if so, the details of the policy?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) and (b) The foreign exchange utilized in the import of edible oils and the production of edible oils in the three years is indicated below:—

Year	Import of Edible Oil (Value Rs. in Crores)	Edible Oil Production (Lakh Tonnes)
1999-2000	8046	60.14
2000-2001	5976	55.04
2001-2002	6474	61.22

(c) and (d) In order to increase the production and productivity of oilseeds and to make the country self sufficient in the production of edible oils/oilseeds, the Government had set up a Technology Mission on Oilseeds during the year 1986. With the concerted efforts of the Mission as well as the State Governments, the production of oilseeds increased from 108.30 lakh tonnes during 1985-86 to 247.50 lakh tonnes during 1998-99. Since then adverse weather conditions in oilseeds growing areas has impacted on the production. Edible oil is being imported to meet the shortfall in domestic production.

For increasing the production of oilseeds in the country, the Technology Mission has launched a Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production (OPP) in 28 States covering 408 selected districts. Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided on various inputs like production and distribution of seeds, distribution of seed minikits, distribution of improved farm implements, sprinkler sets, rhyzobium culture and micro nutrients etc.

Prices of anti-cancer drugs

*97. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government issued the Drugs Price Control Order (DPCO) in 1995 and if so, major provisions thereof;

(b) whether anti-cancer drugs have been kept out of DPCO and if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are aware of the very high prices of anti-cancer drugs in the domestic pharma market causing intense suffering to the cancer patients; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to cut the prices of anti-cancer life saving drugs so as to make them within easy reach of cancer patients?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) to (d) The Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 95) was promulgated by the Government *vide* S.O.18(E) dated 6.1.1995. The 74 bulk drugs specified in its First Schedule and the formulations based thereon are under price control and their prices are fixed/revised by the National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Authority (NPPA) in accordance with the provisions of the DPCO, 95. These drugs have been identified for inclusion under price control in the DPCO, 95. on the basis of criteria mentioned in the 'Modifications in Drug Policy, 1986', announced in September, 1994. These criteria take into account the extent of usage and the market competition of various drugs. None of the 74 bulk drugs specified in the First Schedule of DPCO, 95 is an anti-cancer drug.

Prices of non-Scheduled formulations are fixed by the manufactures themselves keeping in view the various factors like cost of production, marketing/selling expenses, F&D expenses, trade commission, market competition, product innovation , product quality etc. The Government take corrective measures where the public interest is found to be adversely affected.

Establishment of higher education centres in Rural Areas

†*98. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards inadequacy of higher education and its lower standards in the rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to formulate a comprehensive scheme to establish higher education centres in rural areas

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.